

Special Edition

April 2011

Magic
Lantern
Society
NEWS



Friends and Colleagues

For those of you interested in the Magic Lantern, I am writing to announce a series of events which will take place here at the **University of Chicago** this spring in conjunction with Professor Tom Gunning's Seminar on the Moving and Projected Image. The events, which will take place in our Film Studies Center, are all free and open to the public:

April 7: "Multi-Media Victorian: The Magic Lantern, the Metropolis, and the Extraordinary Ballads of George R. Sims," with David Francis and Joss Marsh.

April 21: "Japanese Magic Lantern: The Minwa-za Company of Tokyo and the Art of Utsushi-e."*

May 5: "Nervous Magic Lantern: An Evening with Ken and Flo Jacobs."

May 19: "Archeology of Immersive Media: An Illustrated Lecture by Erkki Huhtamo."

June 2: "700 Million Miles an Hour: An Evening with Rebecca Cummins."

For reservations and additional information, please visit
<http://filmstudiescenter.uchicago.edu/events/upcoming>

*In addition to Minwa-za's lecture-demonstration April 21, there will be a series of events during their visit to Chicago April 17-24, including workshops, a family matinée, and two full performances at various campus locations. For details, please visit
http://ceas.uchicago.edu/events/japanese_magic_lantern.shtml

If you are in the Chicago area, please join us for some or all of these presentations.

Yours,

Artemis Willis

Check These Out

FSC Spring Calendar

Minwa-za Events

FILM STUDIES CENTER

SEATING IS LIMITED.
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS.

filmstudiescenter.uchicago.edu
5811 S. ELLIS, COBB 307
CHICAGO, IL 60637
773.702.8596

SPRING 2011

APR 1/2
FRI-SAT

CONFERENCE

The Powers of Display:
Cinemas of Investigation, Demonstration



The Department of Cinema and Media Studies presents a two-day graduate conference on the subject of cinema's enduring struggle with truth and fakery, spectacle and deception, featuring an April Fools Day screening of Orson Welles' *F for Fake* (1973).

MAY 5
THU 7pm

LECTURE AND PERFORMANCE

Nervous Magic Lantern:
An Evening with **Ken and Flo Jacobs**



Ken and Flo Jacobs unveil their Nervous Magic Lantern, an empty box with a single-element glass lens, a light and a spinning shutter. From this simple technology, the most advanced cinema arises without film or electronics, casting images that conjure 3D illusions and other visual phenomena.

APR 7
THU 7pm

LECTURE AND PERFORMANCE

Multi-Media Victorian: The Magic Lantern, the Metropolis, and the Extraordinary Ballads of George R. Sims



Scholars and lanternists David Francis and Joss Marsh present six ballads of George R. Sims in a Magic Lantern show that also tours Sims' world of Victorian London, using original lantern slides and a mahogany-and-brass bi-unial lantern c. 1890. Featuring live piano accompaniment.

MAY 14
SAT 1pm

SCREENING

Sátántangó

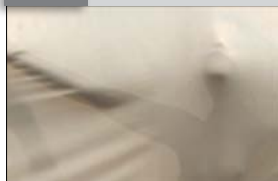


In the ashes of the Communist utopia in Hungary, a group of lost souls from a collective farm choose to follow a new messiah towards an uncertain future. Rarely screened, Bela Tarr's seven-hour epic is a unique and visionary masterwork of international cinema. (1994, 35mm, shown with intermissions)

APR 8
FRI 7pm

FILM SCREENING

The State and the Digital:
An Evening with Young Cuban Filmmakers



In recent years, digital technologies have fueled an explosion of Cuban cinema by filmmakers working independently or under the auspices of Cuba's two film schools. Ranging from documentaries to fiction, comedies to contemplative dramas, this selection of shorts represents some of the best of Cuba's next filmmaking generation.

MAY 19
THU 7pm

LECTURE AND PERFORMANCE

Archaeology of Immersive Media:
An Illustrated Lecture by **Erkki Huhtamo**



Scholar and media archeologist Erkki Huhtamo draws on his research into moving panoramas, dioramas, and more recent immersive applications to present the Maréorama, a huge multi-sensory spectacle created by Hugo d'Alesi and his team for the Universal Exposition of 1900 in Paris.

APR 21
THU 7pm

LECTURE AND PERFORMANCE

Japanese Magic Lantern: The Minwa-za
Company of Tokyo and the Art of *Utsushi-e*



Directly influenced by Asian shadow and puppet theater, *utsushi-e* was a uniquely Japanese magic lantern show. Minwa-za has revived this 200-year-old multi-media spectacle, which they present in a special performance of projections, narration and traditional *shamisen* accompaniment.

MAY 26
THU 5pm

LECTURE

Xinyu Dong on Comedy for Export:
A Chinese Shadowplay Goes to Paris



A canon in traditional Chinese theater, *Romance of the Western Chamber* invited various proto-cinematic treatments as well as bold cinematic experiments. New CMS faculty Xinyu Dong traces these inter-medial practices, with a focus on the 1927 film adaptation and its cross-cultural exhibition.

APR 23
THU 7:30pm

VISITING ARTIST

Cinema as a State of Mind – Past and Future:
An Evening with **Walter Murch**



Legendary film editor, theorist and artist Walter Murch maps out his intriguing speculations on what would have happened had the cinema been invented a century earlier, and considers whether the beginning of the 21st century constitutes a comparable era of cultural and technological change.

MAY 27/28
FRI-SAT

CONFERENCE

Border Crossings in East Asian Cinema:
Koreans on the Move



Focusing on films that cross generic and geographic boundaries, Koreans on the Move showcases recent films about migrants and refugees to and from North Korea. Filmmakers Yang Yong-hi and Zhang Lu will speak about their work, followed by a panel of University of Chicago faculty and students.

APR 30
SAT 8:30pm

VISITING FILMMAKER

A Silence of the Archive:
Roundtable Discussion of *A Film Unfinished*



Yael Hersonski, director of the award-winning documentary *A Film Unfinished* (2009, screening at Doc Films 4/28), joins a panel discussion focusing on questions of history, memory and the moving image, based upon her interrogation of archival footage shot in the Warsaw ghetto under the Nazi propaganda machine.

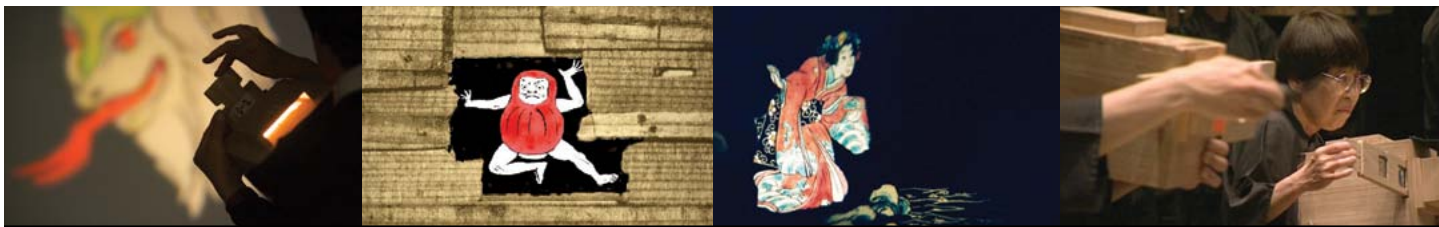
JUN 2
THU 7pm

LECTURE AND PERFORMANCE

700 Million Miles an Hour:
An Evening with **Rebecca Cummins**



Artist Rebecca Cummins presents and discusses her work, including a machine for making rainbows, a camera obscura journey through the center of the earth, paranoid dinner-table devices and recent sculptural and photographic approaches to recording the movement of shadows.



Japanese Magic Lantern

THE MINWA-ZA COMPANY OF TOKYO
AND THE ART OF *UTSUSHI-E*

In April 2011, the University of Chicago community welcomes the Minwa-za Company of Tokyo for a series of events celebrating the uniquely Japanese magic lantern tradition of *utsushi-e*.

Join us for a week of workshops, lecture-demonstrations, and performances that recreate *utsushi-e* in the original theatrical manner, using reproductions of lanterns and slides of the Edo era.

Complete information about Minwa-za's visit to the University of Chicago, including online reservations, is available at http://ceas.uchicago.edu/events/japanese_magic_lantern.shtml

APRIL 19
Welcome reception,
Japan Information Center

APRIL 20
Workshop and Family Matinée,
International House,
University of Chicago

APRIL 21
Lecture-demonstration and short
performance, the Film Studies Center,
University of Chicago

APRIL 22
Performance, Rockefeller Memorial Chapel,
University of Chicago

APRIL 23
Performance, Rockefeller Memorial Chapel,
University of Chicago

Organized by Artemis Willis, Ph.D candidate,
Department of Cinema and Media Studies,
in conjunction with Professor Tom Gunning's
Seminar on the Moving and Projected Image.

Sponsored by the Department of Cinema and
Media Studies, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation,
The Japan Studies Committee of the University of
Chicago Center for East Asian Studies, the University
of Chicago Arts Council, the Japan Information
Center, International House's Global Voices
Program, and Rockefeller Memorial Chapel.

